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James et al.

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(54) **BLANK AND METHODS OF CONSTRUCTING A CONTAINER FROM THE BLANK**

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(51) **Int. Cl.**

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B65D 85/36	(2006.01)
B65D 5/66	(2006.01)
B65D 81/34	(2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.**

CPC ***B65D 5/2033*** (2013.01); ***B31B 3/00*** (2013.01); ***B65D 5/20*** (2013.01); ***B65D 5/2019*** (2013.01); ***B65D 5/2052*** (2013.01); ***B65D 5/2057*** (2013.01); ***B65D 5/6664*** (2013.01); ***B65D 81/34*** (2013.01); ***B65D 85/36*** (2013.01); *B65D 2585/366* (2013.01)

(58) **Field of Classification Search**

USPC 229/110, 902, 906; 493/162

See application file for complete search history.

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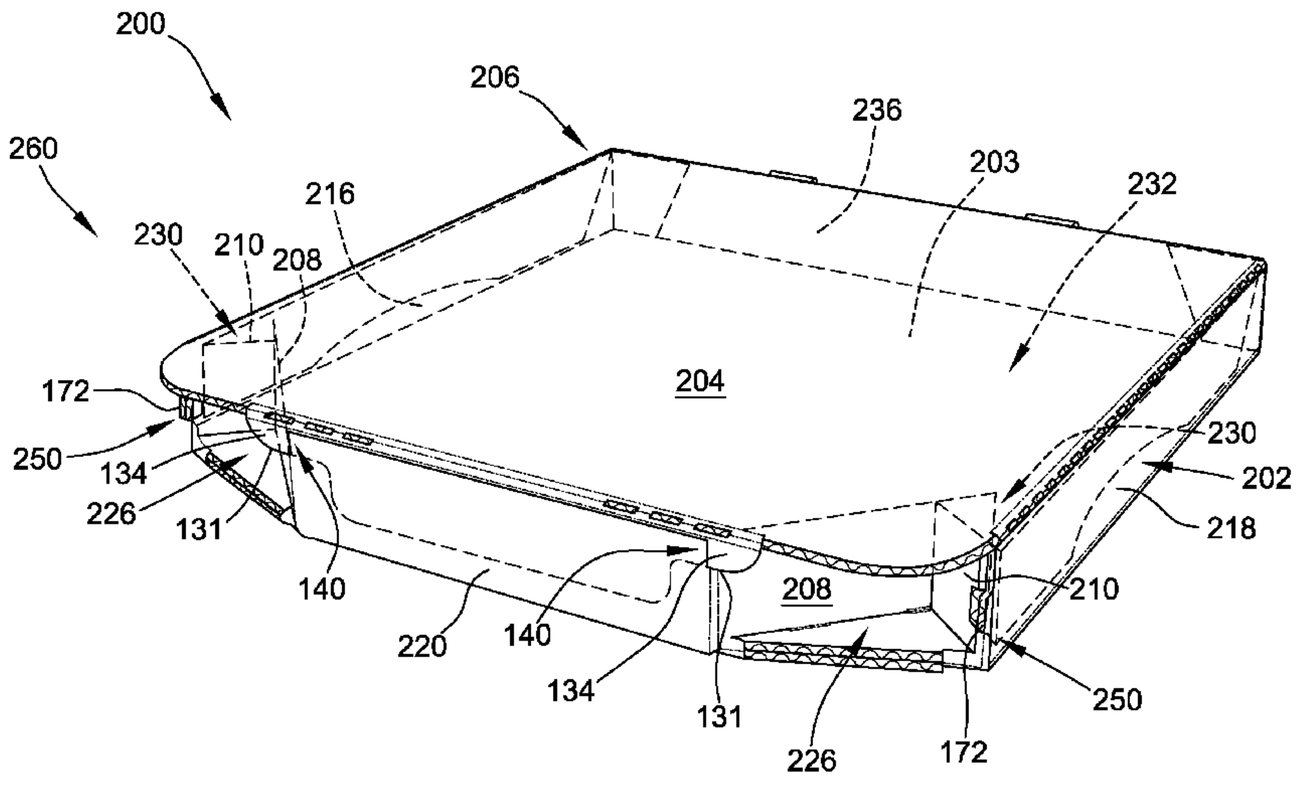
(57) **ABSTRACT**

A blank of foldable sheet material for forming a container is provided. The blank includes a top panel, a front tuck flap extending from a front edge of the top panel, and a top side panel extending from a side edge of the top panel. The blank also includes a bottom panel, a front panel extending from a front edge of the bottom panel, and a corner portion. The corner portion includes a minor diagonal panel extending and a major diagonal panel. The corner portion also includes a corner panel hingedly connected to the minor and major diagonal panels. The front panel is configured to engage the front tuck flap to at least partially define a first releasably secure closure of the container, and the top side panel includes a front edge configured to engage the minor diagonal panel to at least partially define a second releasably secure closure of the container.

21 Claims, 10 Drawing Sheets



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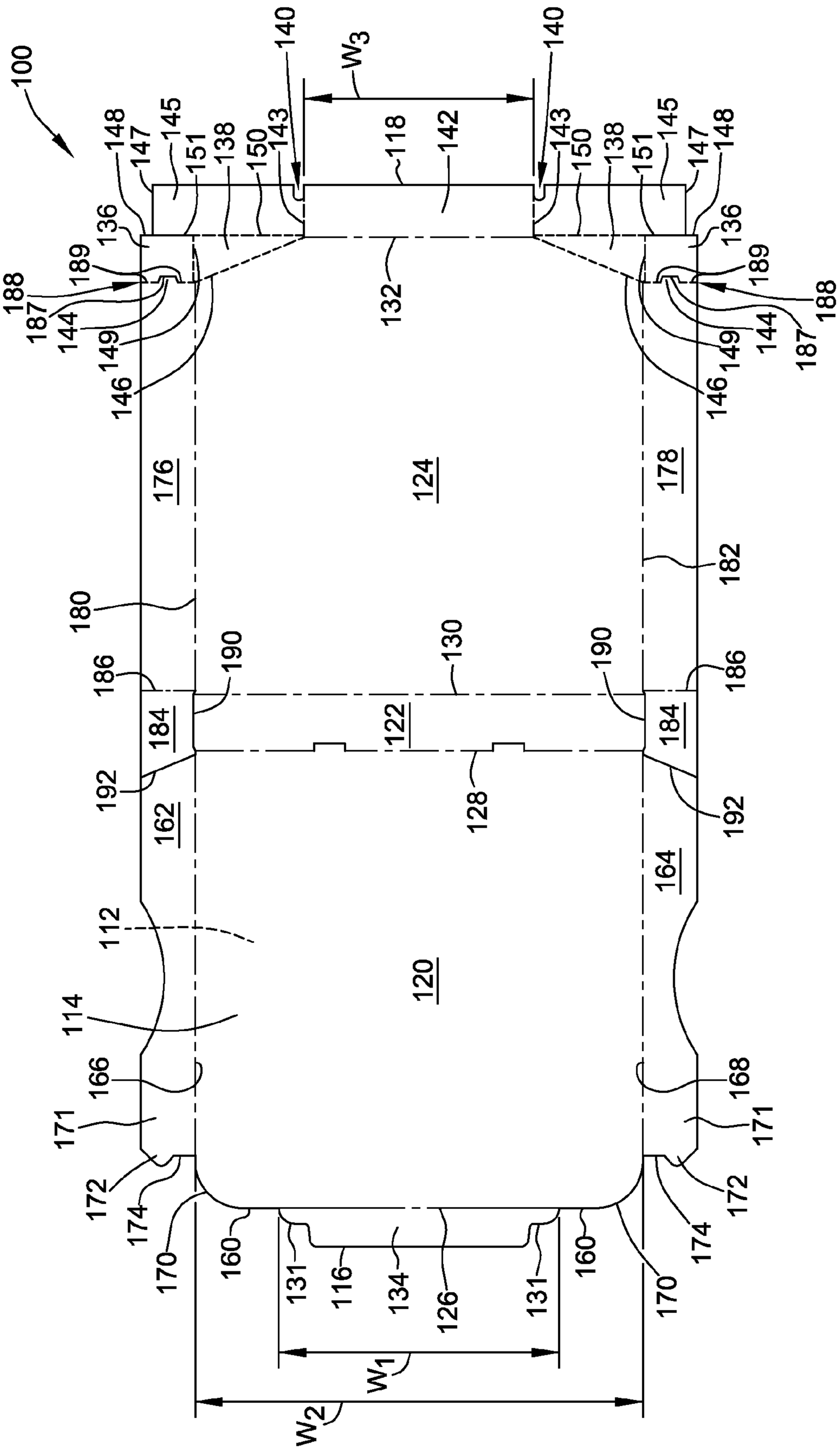
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FIG. 1

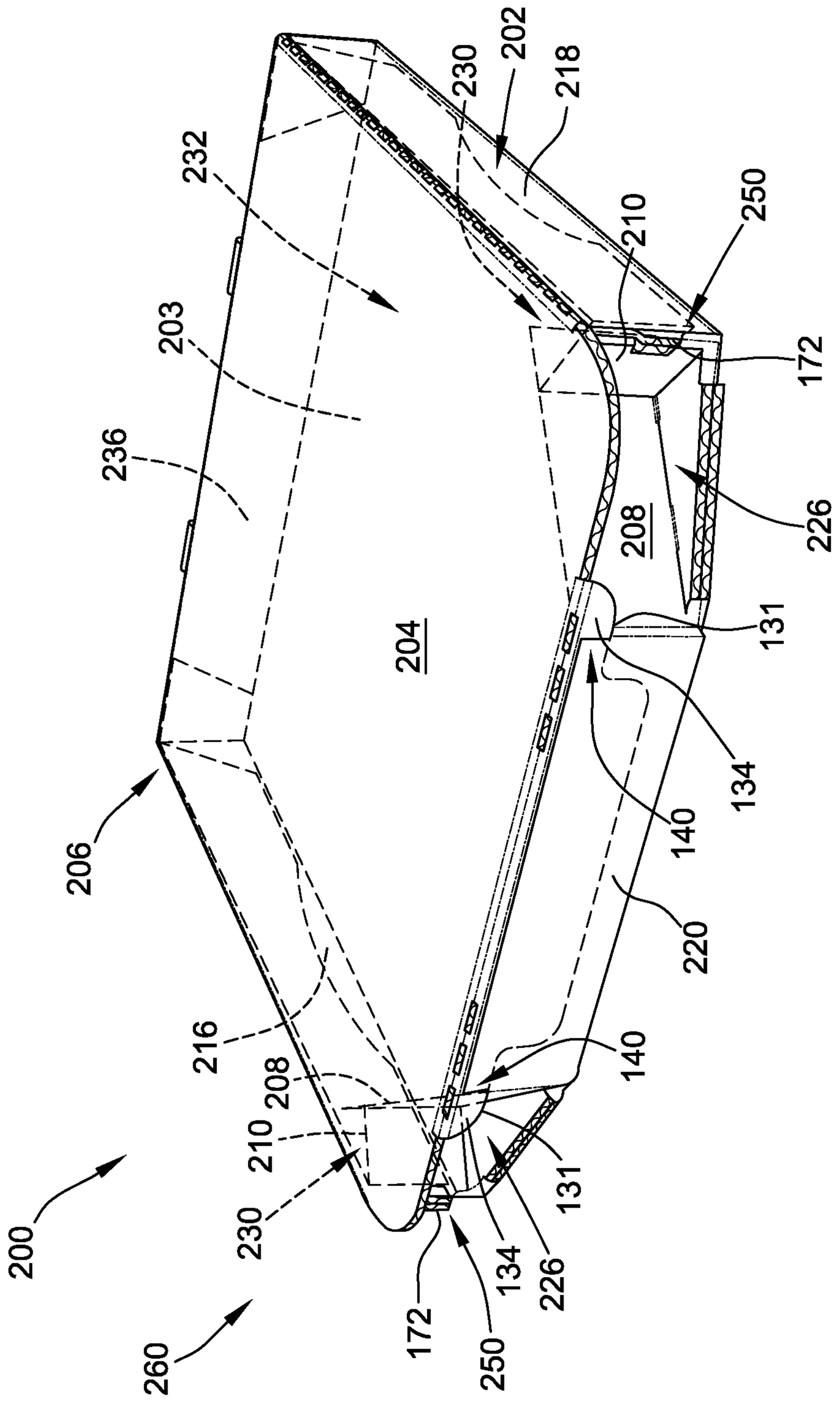
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FIG. 2

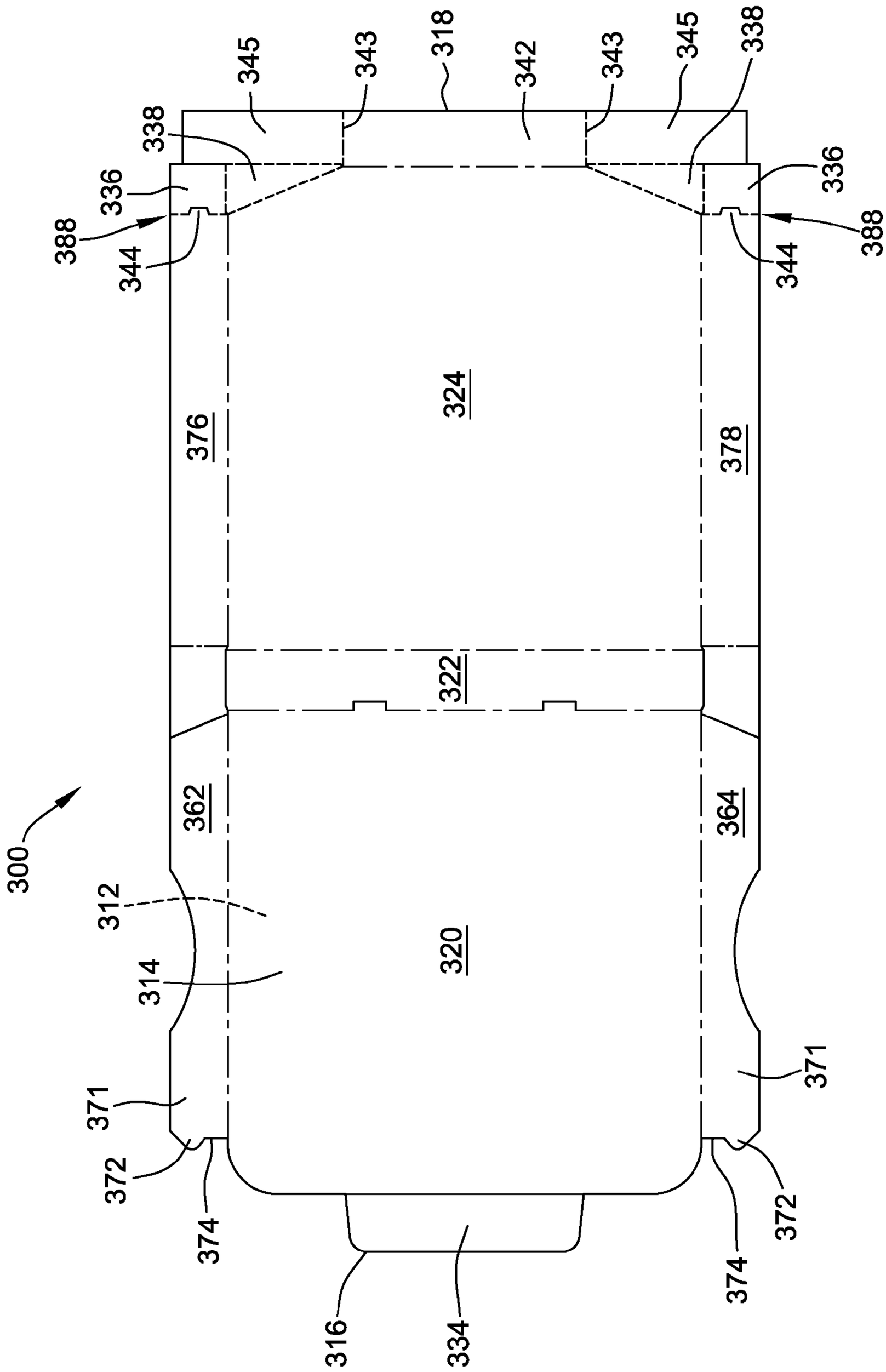
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FIG. 3

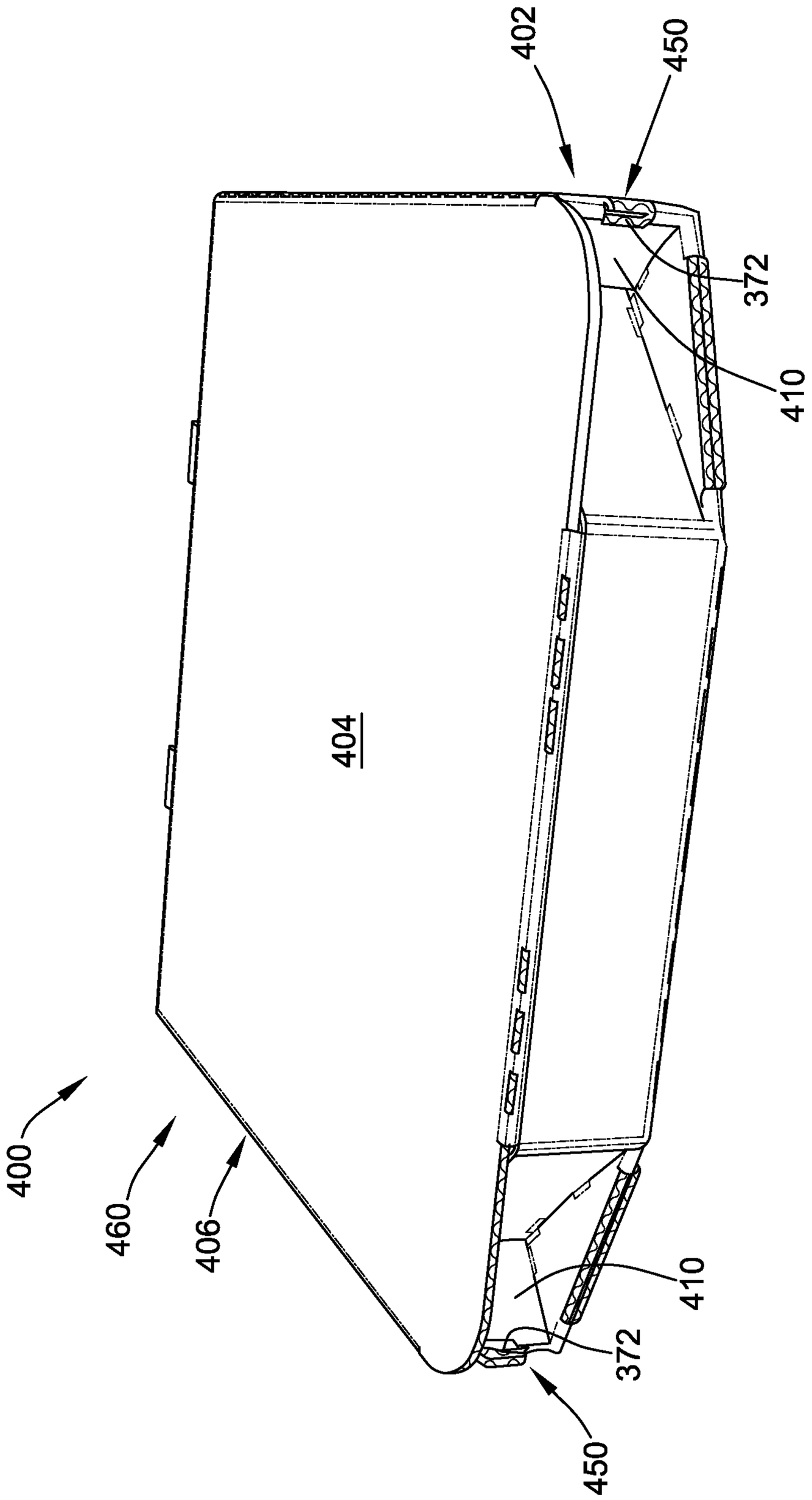

FIG. 4

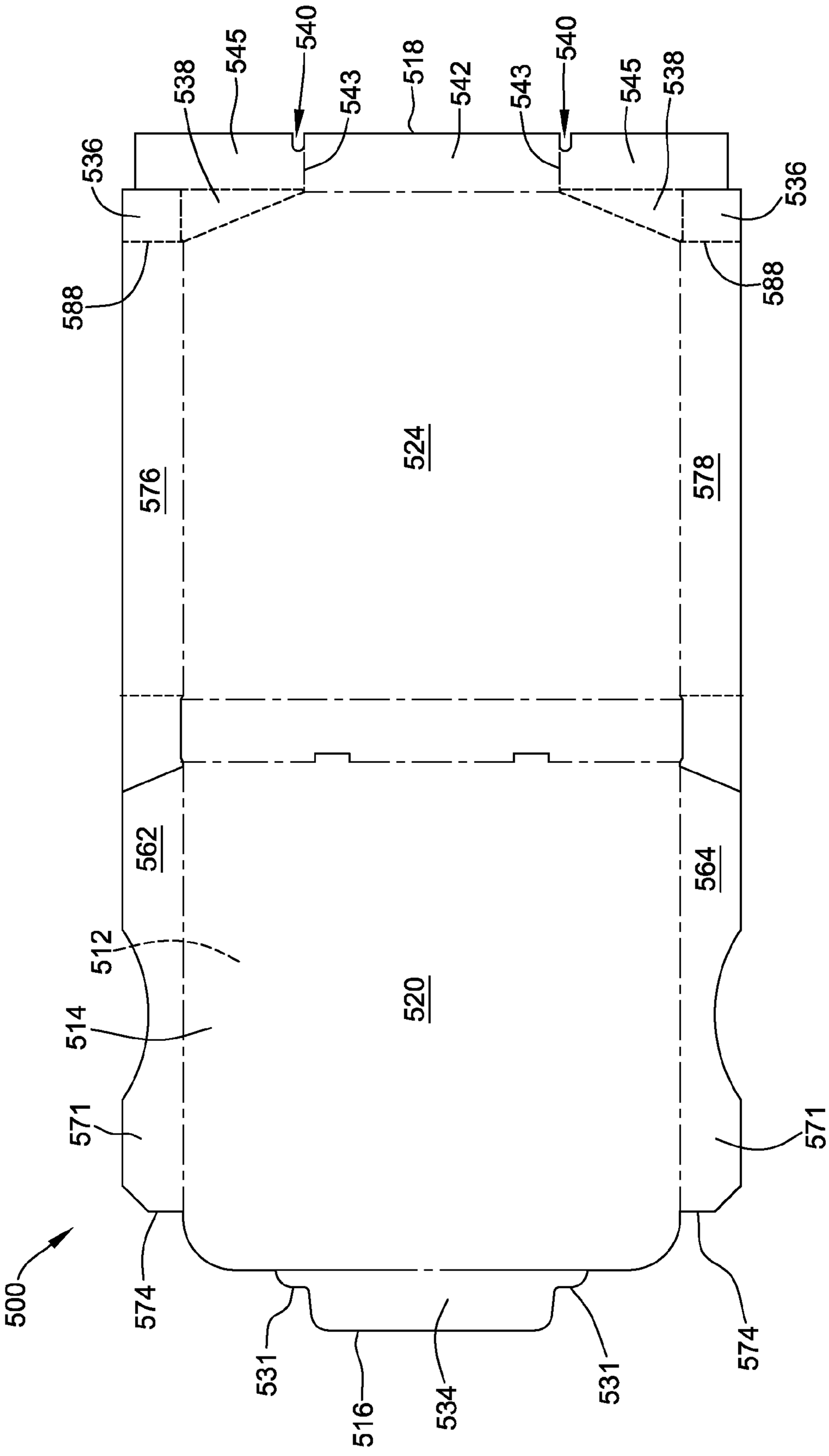
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FIG. 5

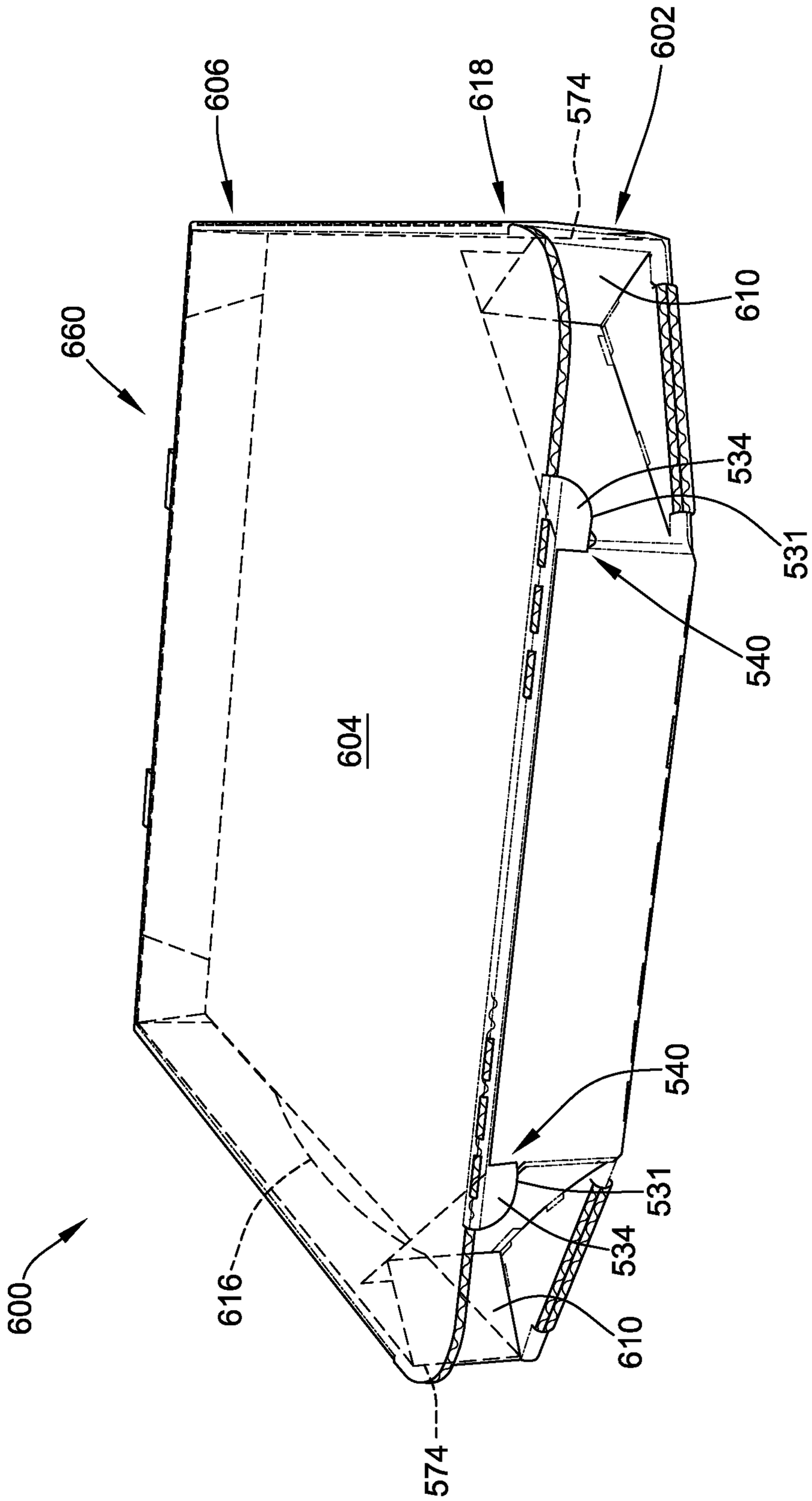
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FIG. 6

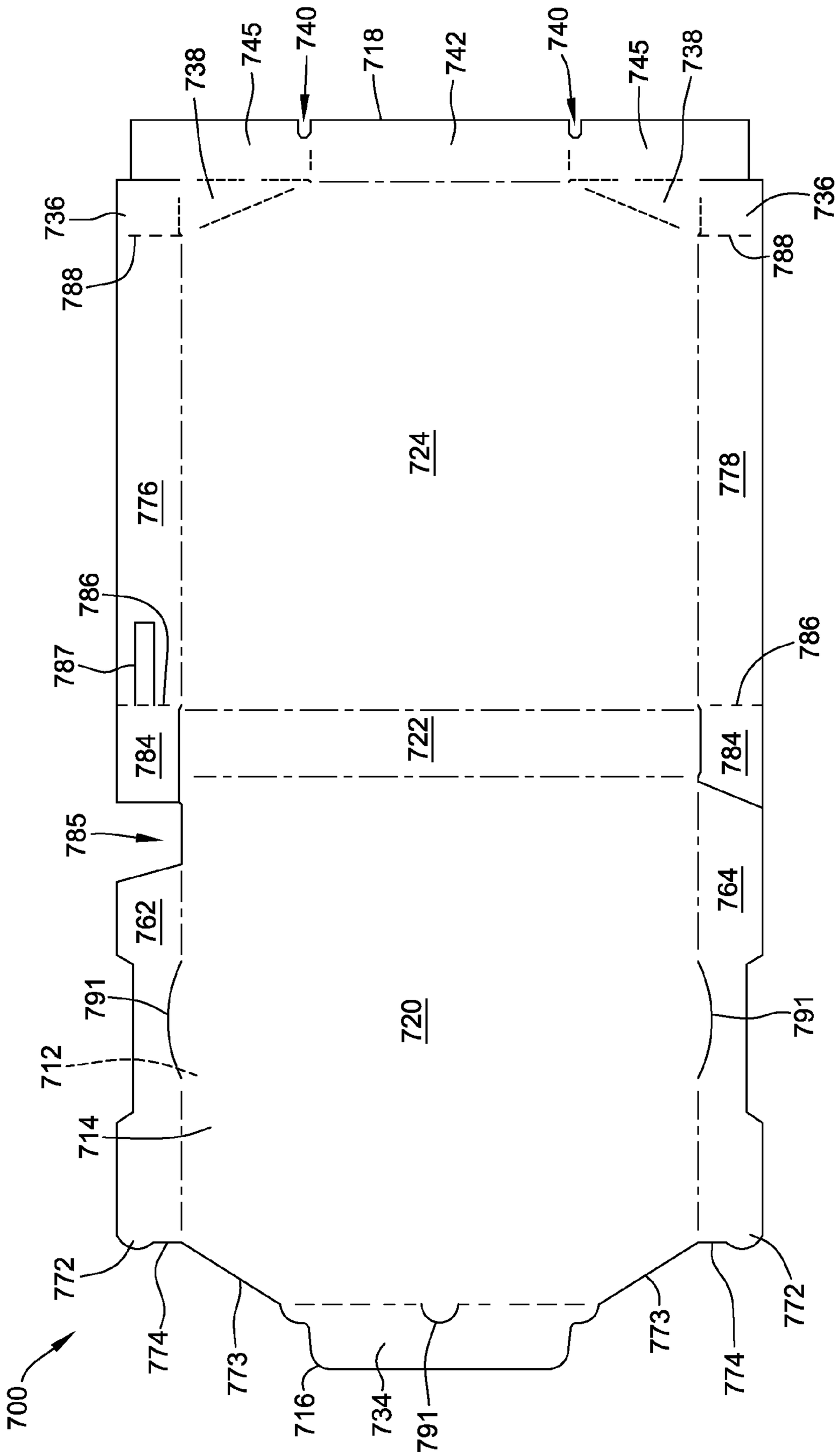
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FIG. 7

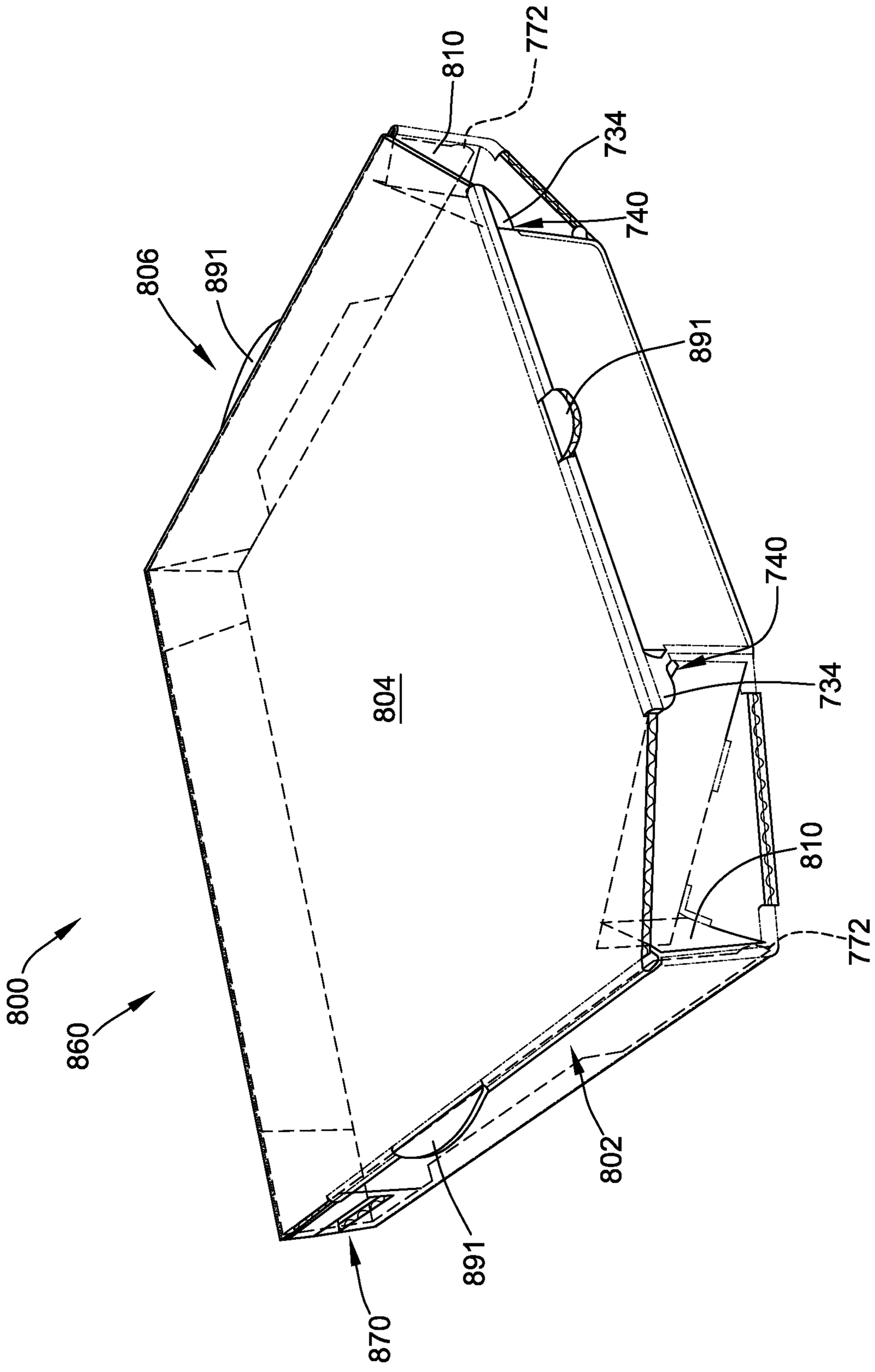

FIG. 8

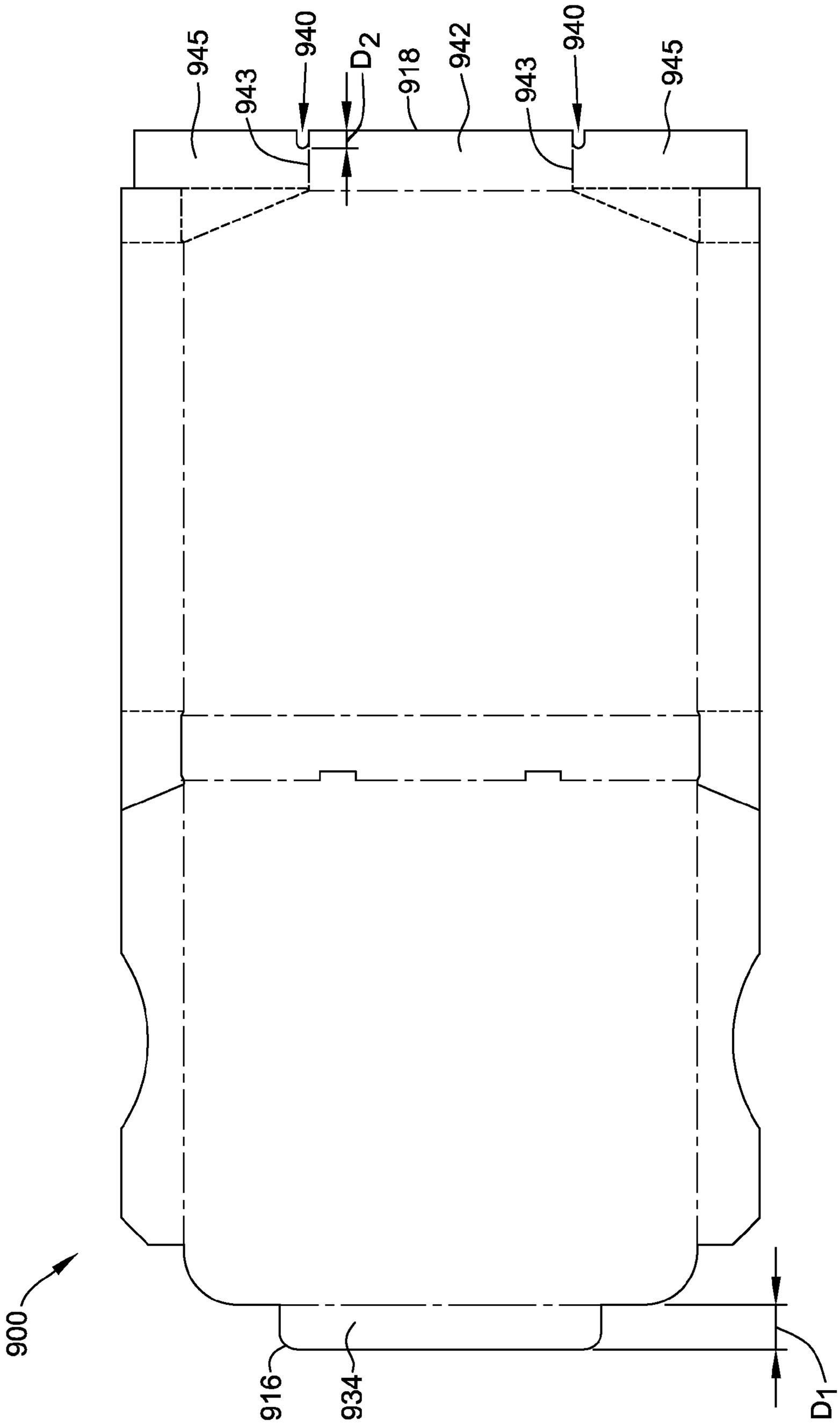

FIG. 9

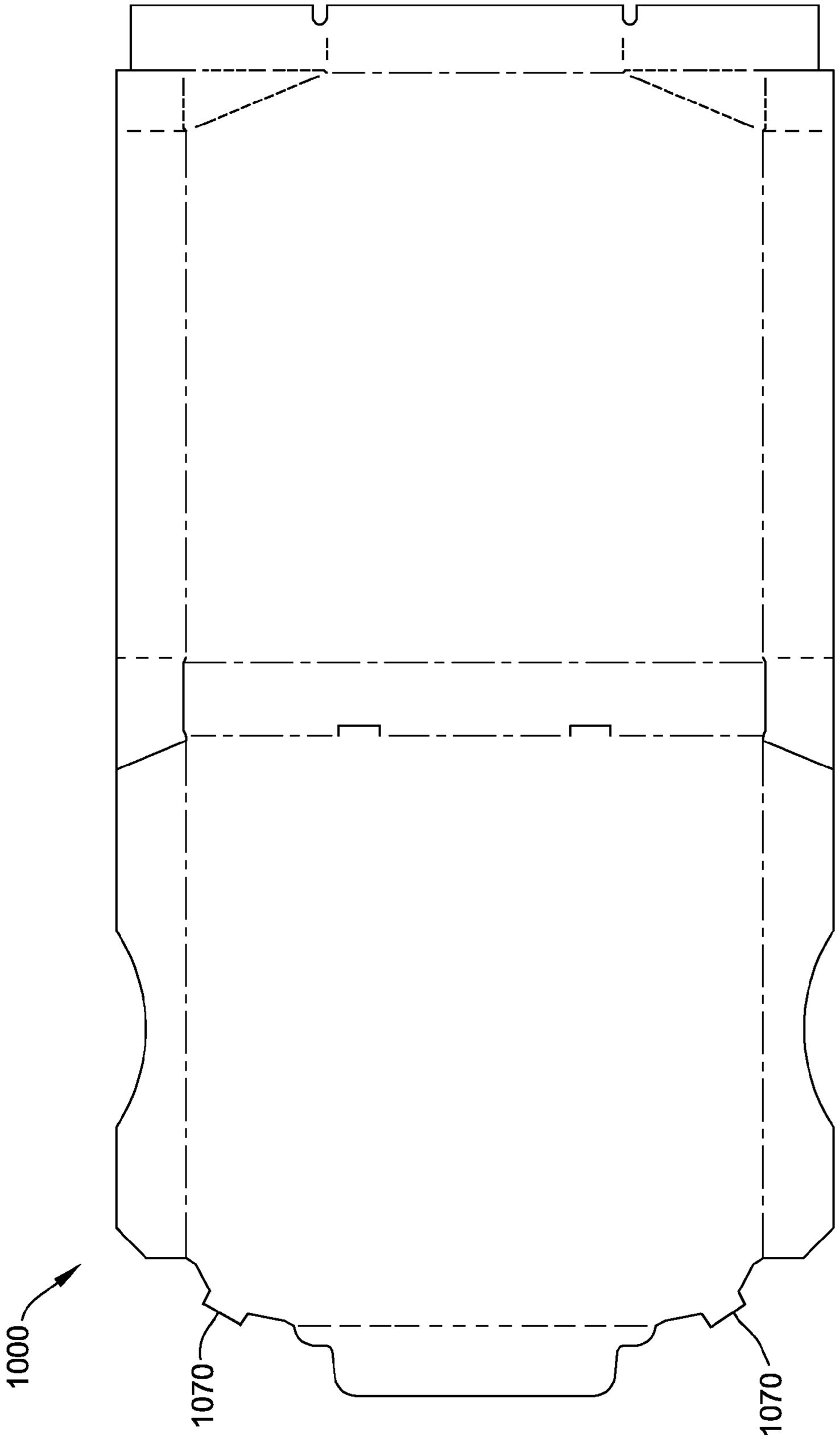

FIG. 10

BLANK AND METHODS OF CONSTRUCTING A CONTAINER FROM THE BLANK

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a continuation-in-part of U.S. patent application Ser. No. 29/491,522, filed May 21, 2014, entitled "FOOD CONTAINER," and claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No. 62/001,568, filed May 21, 2014, entitled "BLANK AND METHODS OF CONSTRUCTING A CONTAINER FROM THE BLANK," the disclosures of which are hereby incorporated herein by reference in their entirety.

BACKGROUND

The field of the disclosure relates generally to a container formed from a sheet of material, and more particularly to a container that includes side locking features and a front tuck flap.

It is well known in the food industry, including the pizza industry, to provide a food product to a consumer that is packaged in film, foil, paperwrap, a box, or a container. Such containers provide a convenient package to carry the food product from the producer of the food product to a table or other location for consumption by the consumer of the food product. It is also convenient to place multiple containers in a bag, such as an insulated bag, so a customer and/or delivery person is able to carry those containers from the restaurant for consumption elsewhere. At least some of these containers may be time-consuming to form. Moreover, at least some such known containers do not include easily formed features that facilitate securing a lid to a base of the container when the container is closed.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

In one aspect, a blank of foldable sheet material for forming a container is provided. The blank includes a top portion including a top panel, a front tuck flap extending from a front edge of the top panel, and a first top side panel extending from a first side edge of the top panel. The blank also includes a bottom portion including a bottom panel, a first bottom side panel extending from a first side edge of the bottom panel, a front panel extending from a front edge of the bottom panel, and a corner portion. The corner portion includes a first minor diagonal panel extending from a front edge of the first bottom side panel and a first major diagonal panel extending from a first side edge of the front panel. The first major diagonal panel has a length greater than a length of the first minor diagonal panel. The corner portion also includes a first corner panel hingedly connected to the first minor and major diagonal panels. The front panel is configured to engage the front tuck flap to at least partially define a first releasably secure closure of the container in a closed position, and the first top side panel includes a front edge configured to engage the first minor diagonal panel to at least partially define a second releasably secure closure of the container in the closed position.

In another aspect, a container formed from a blank of foldable sheet material is provided. The container includes a top portion including a top panel hingedly connected to a front tuck flap along a front edge of the top panel and to a first top side panel along a first side edge of the top panel. The container also includes a bottom portion including a bottom panel, a first bottom side panel hingedly connected to a first side edge of the bottom panel, a front panel hingedly connected to a front edge of the bottom panel, and a corner portion. The corner portion includes a first minor diagonal panel extending from a front edge of the first bottom side panel and a first major diagonal panel extending from a first side edge of the front panel. The first major diagonal panel has a length greater than a length of the first minor diagonal panel. The corner portion also includes a first corner panel hingedly connected to the first minor and major diagonal panels. The first corner panel overlaps and is substantially parallel to the bottom panel. The front panel is engaged by the front tuck flap to at least partially define a first releasably secure closure of the container, and a front edge of the first top side panel is engaged by the first minor diagonal panel to at least partially define a second releasably secure closure of the container.

In another aspect, a method of constructing a container from a blank of sheet material is provided. The method includes rotating a first corner panel of the blank about a respective fold line toward an interior surface of the first blank to form a base. The blank includes a bottom panel, a first bottom side panel hingedly connected to a first side edge of the bottom panel, a front panel hingedly connected to a front edge of the bottom panel, and a corner portion. The corner portion includes a first minor diagonal panel extending from a front edge of the first bottom side panel and a first major diagonal panel extending from a first side edge of the front panel, the first major diagonal panel having a length greater than a length of said first minor diagonal panel. The corner portion also includes a first corner panel hingedly connected to the first minor and major diagonal panels. The rotating causes further rotation of the first major diagonal panel, the first minor diagonal panel, the front panel, and the first bottom side panel about respective fold lines toward the interior of the blank, such that, after the rotating, the corner panel is overlapping and substantially parallel to the bottom panel of the blank, and the first major diagonal panel, the first minor diagonal panel, the front panel, and the first bottom side panel are substantially perpendicular to the bottom panel. The method also includes rotating a first top side panel of the blank about a respective fold line toward the interior surface of the blank to form a lid. The blank further includes a top panel hingedly connected to a front tuck flap along a front edge of the top panel and to the first top side panel along a first side edge of the top panel. The method further includes rotating the lid toward the base such that the front panel is engaged by the front tuck flap to at least partially define a first releasably secure closure of the container, and a front edge of the first top side panel is engaged by the first minor diagonal panel to at least partially define a second releasably secure closure of the container.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. **1** is a top plan view of a blank of sheet material for constructing a container according to a first embodiment of the present invention.

FIG. **2** is a perspective view of a container formed from the blank shown in FIG. **1**.

FIG. **3** is a top plan view of a blank of sheet material for constructing a container according to a second embodiment of the present invention.

FIG. **4** is a perspective view of a container formed from the blank shown in FIG. **3**.

FIG. **5** is a top plan view of a blank of sheet material for constructing a container according to a third embodiment of the present invention.

FIG. **6** is a perspective view of a container formed from the blank shown in FIG. **5**.

FIG. **7** is a top plan view of a blank of sheet material for constructing a container according to a fourth embodiment of the present invention.

FIG. **8** is a perspective view of a container formed from the blank shown in FIG. **7**.

FIG. **9** is a top plan view of a blank of sheet material for constructing a container according to a fifth embodiment of the present invention.

FIG. **10** is a top plan view of a blank of sheet material for constructing a container according to a sixth embodiment of the present invention.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

The following detailed description illustrates the disclosure by way of example and not by way of limitation. The description clearly enables one skilled in the art to make and use the disclosure, describes several embodiments, adaptations, variations, alternatives, and use of the disclosure, including what is presently believed to be the best mode of carrying out the disclosure.

The present disclosure provides a stackable, collapsible container. In some embodiments, the container includes a first releasably secure closure of a lid and a base, defined by engagement of a front tuck flap on the lid and a front panel of the base, and the container also includes a second releasably secure closure of the lid and the base, defined by engagement of front edges of the side panels of the lid and minor diagonal panels of the base. The container is constructed from a blank of sheet material. The blank is formed by a machine that imparts fold lines, cut lines, and other lines of weakness to the blank. In one embodiment, the container is fabricated from a paperboard material. The container, however, may be fabricated using any suitable material, and therefore is not limited to a specific type of material. In alternative embodiments, the container is fabricated using cardboard, plastic, fiberboard, paperboard, foamboard, corrugated paper, and/or any suitable material known to those skilled in the art and guided by the teachings herein provided.

Unless otherwise indicated, the terms "first," "second," etc. are used herein merely as labels, and are not intended to impose ordinal, positional, or hierarchical requirements on the items to which these terms refer. Moreover, reference to, for example, a "second" item does not require or preclude the existence of, for example, a "first" or lower-numbered item or a "third" or higher-numbered item.

In an example embodiment, the container includes at least one marking thereon including, without limitation, indicia that communicates the product, a manufacturer of the product, and/or a seller of the product. For example, the marking may include printed text that indicates a product's name and briefly describes the product, logos and/or trademarks that indicate a manufacturer and/or seller of the product, and/or designs and/or ornamentation that attract attention. "Printing," "printed," and/or any other form of "print" as used herein may include, but is not limited to including, ink jet printing, laser printing, screen printing, giclee, pen and ink, painting, offset lithography, flexography, relief print, rotogravure, dye transfer, and/or any suitable printing technique known to those skilled in the art and guided by the teachings herein provided. In another embodiment, the container is void of markings, such as, without limitation, indicia that communicates the product, a manufacturer of the product, and/or a seller of the product. Furthermore, the container may have any suitable size, shape and/or configuration, i.e., any suitable number of sides having any suitable size, shape and/or configuration as described and/or illustrated herein. In one embodiment, the container includes a shape that provides functionality, such as a shape that facilitates packaging a food item, a shape that facilitates transporting the container, and/or a shape that facilitates stacking and/or arrangement of a plurality of containers.

Referring now to the drawings, and more specifically to FIGS. **1** and **2**, although as described above a container may have any suitable size, shape, and/or configuration, FIGS. **1** and **2** illustrate the construction or formation of a first embodiment of a container. Specifically, FIG. **1** is a top plan view of a first example embodiment of a blank **100** of sheet material. FIG. **2** is a perspective view of a first example embodiment of a container **200** formed from blank **100** shown in FIG. **1**.

Referring to FIG. **1**, blank **100** has a first or interior surface **112** and an opposing second or exterior surface **114**. Further, blank **100** defines a leading edge **116** and a trailing edge **118**. Blank **100** includes, from leading edge **116** to trailing edge **118**, a front tuck flap **134**, a top panel **120**, a back panel **122**, a bottom panel **124**, and a front panel **142**, coupled together along preformed, generally parallel, fold lines **126**, **128**, **130**, and **132**, respectively. Fold lines and/or hinge lines as described herein may include any suitable line of weakening and/or line of separation known to those skilled in the art and guided by the teachings herein provided.

More specifically, top panel **120** extends from front tuck flap **134** along fold line **126**, back panel **122** extends from top panel **120** along fold line **128**, bottom panel **124** extends from back panel **122** along fold line **130**, and front panel **142** extends from bottom panel **124** along fold line **132**. In the example embodiment, front tuck flap **134** includes a pair of offset edges **131** disposed at opposite ends of front tuck flap **134**. More specifically, offset edges **131** are offset from leading edge **116** of blank **100**. In alternative embodiments, front tuck flap **134** does not include offset edges **131**.

In the example embodiment, front tuck flap **134** has a width W_1 that is less than a width W_2 of top panel **120**, such that a pair of free edges **160** of top panel **120** are defined on opposing sides of, and substantially co-linear with, fold line **126**. Free edges **160** and fold line **126** cooperate to form a front edge of top panel **120**, and fold line **128** defines a back edge of top panel **120**. In alternative embodiments, width W_1 is equal to or greater than width W_2, such that top panel **120** does not include free edges **160**.

Top panel **120** includes a first top side panel **162** and a second top side panel **164** extending therefrom along respective opposing fold lines **166** and **168**. More specifically, first top side panel **162** extends from top panel **120** along fold line **166**, and second top side panel **164** extends from top panel **120** along fold line **168**. Fold lines **166** and **168** define side edges of top panel **120**. Each of first top side panel **162** and second top side panel **164** includes a front edge **174** that is configured to engage one of minor diagonal panels **136** to at least partially define the second releasably secure closure of container **200** in a closed position **260**. For example, in the illustrated embodiment, each of first top side panel **162** and second top side panel **164** includes a front portion **171** proximate front edge **174**, and a locking tab **172** that extends from front edge **174**. More specifically, in the example embodiment, each locking tab **172** is configured to be received in a locking aperture **250** defined in a minor diagonal wall **210** of container **200** to at least partially define the second releasably secure closure of container **200** in closed position **260**, as shown in FIG. **2**.

In the example embodiment, top panel **120** includes a pair of rounded front corner edges **170**. Each rounded front corner edge **170** extends between a free edge **160** and a respective side edge of top panel **120**. Alternatively, top panel **120** does not include rounded front corner edges **170**.

Bottom panel **124** has a first bottom side panel **176** and a second bottom side panel **178** extending therefrom along respective opposing fold lines **180** and **182**. More specifically, first bottom side panel **176** extends from bottom panel **124** along fold line **180**, and second bottom side panel **178** extends from bottom panel **124** along fold line **182**. Fold lines **180** and **182** define side edges of bottom panel **124**. Furthermore, each bottom side panel **176** and **178** includes a back tab **184** extending from a respective back edge **186** of the bottom side panel **176** or **178**. Each back edge **186** is defined by a fold line. Each back tab **184** is separated from back panel **122** by a cut line **190**, and further separated from an adjacent one of top side panels **162** and **164** by a cut line **192**. In an alternative embodiment (not shown), each back tab **184** extends from one of top side panels **162** and **164** such that a fold line couples back tab **184** to top side panel **162** or **164**, and a cut line separates each back tab **184** from bottom side panel **176** or **178**.

In the example embodiment, each bottom side panel **176** and **178** also has a minor diagonal panel **136** extending from a respective front edge **188** of the bottom side panel. Each bottom side panel front edge **188** is partially defined by a cut line **187** that defines a slot-forming tab **144** on bottom side panel front edge **188**, and further at least partially defined by at least one fold line **189** extending from an end of cut line **187**. In the example embodiment, the at least one fold line **189** is a pair of fold lines **189** that extend from opposing edges of cut line **187**. Each slot forming tab **144** is configured to form one of locking apertures **250** of container **200**, as shown in FIG. **2**, when minor diagonal panel **136** is rotated about fold line **189**.

Front panel **142** includes a pair of oppositely disposed side edges **143**. Each side edge **143** is defined by a fold line. A major diagonal panel **145** extends from each side edge **143**. Each major diagonal panel **145** has a length greater than a length of each minor diagonal panel **136**, wherein the length of major diagonal panel **145** is measured between a respective fold line **143** and a respective side edge **147** of major diagonal panel **145**, and the length of minor diagonal panel **136** is measured between a respective fold line **188** and a front edge **148** of minor diagonal panel **136**.

Fold line **132** defines a front edge of bottom panel **124**, and fold line **130** defines a back edge of bottom panel **124**. In addition, bottom panel **124** includes a pair of oppositely disposed angled edges **146** that extend from opposing ends of fold line **132** to bottom panel side edges **180** and **182**, respectively. Each angled edge **146** is defined by a respective fold line. A corner panel **138** extends from each angled edge **146**. Moreover, each corner panel **138** is separated from an adjacent minor diagonal panel **136** by a fold line **149**, and is separated from an adjacent major diagonal panel **145** by a respective fold line **150**. In addition, each minor diagonal panel **136** is separated from an adjacent major diagonal panel **145** by a respective cut line **151**.

Front panel **142** is configured to engage front tuck flap **134** to at least partially define a first releasably secure closure of container **200** in closed position **260**. For example, in the illustrated embodiment, a notch **140** is defined in trailing edge **118** along each side edge **143** of front panel **142**. Each notch **140** is configured to receive at least a portion of front tuck flap **134** to at least partially define the first releasably secure closure of container **200** in closed position **260**, as shown in FIG. **2**. In alternative embodiments, any suitable number of notches **140** disposed at any suitable location are configured to receive any suitable portion of front tuck flap **134**. In the example embodiment, front panel **142** has a width W_3 that is less than or equal to width W_1 of front tuck flap **134**. In alternative embodiments, width W_3 is greater than width W_1.

With reference to FIGS. **1** and **2**, to construct container **200** from blank **100**, a base **202** of container **200** and a lid **206** of container **200** are formed. To form base **202**, corner panels **138** are rotated about respective fold lines **146** toward interior surface **112** to overlap at least a portion of bottom panel **124**. After rotation, corner panels **138** are substantially parallel to bottom panel **124** such that interior surface **112** of each corner panel **138** is adjacent to interior surface **112** of bottom panel **124**. Bottom panel **124** and corner panels **138** form a bottom wall **203** of container **200**.

When corner panels **138** are rotated toward interior surface **112**, major diagonal panels **145**, minor diagonal panels **136**, and front panel **142** are also rotated about respective fold lines **146**, **143**, **150**, **149**, and **132** toward interior surface **112** because of the interconnectivity of each of major diagonal panels **145**, minor diagonal panels **136**, and front panel **142** with corner panels **138**. In addition, bottom side panels **176** and **178** are also rotated about respective fold lines **180** and **182** toward interior surface **112** because of the interconnectivity of bottom side panels **176** and **178** with respective minor diagonal panels **136**. As such, major diagonal panels **145**, minor diagonal panels **136**, bottom side panels **176** and **178**, and front panel **142** are rotated into position concurrently with corner panels **138** in one motion. Major diagonal panels **145** form respective major diagonal walls **208**, and minor diagonal panels **136** form respective minor diagonal walls **210**. Bottom side panels **176** and **178** are configured to form a portion of respective first and second side walls **216** and **218**, and front panel **142** is configured to form a portion of a front wall **220**. After rotation, bottom side panels **176** and **178**, front panel **142**, major diagonal walls **208**, and minor diagonal walls **210** are substantially perpendicular to bottom wall **203**.

In the example embodiment, when minor diagonal panels **136** are rotated, slot-forming tabs **144** separate from minor diagonal panels **136**, forming locking apertures **250** in each minor diagonal wall **210** adjacent first and second side walls **216** and **218**. Further, when corner panels **138** are rotated into position, front edges **148** of each minor diagonal panel **136** contact an adjacent major diagonal panel **145**, and side edges **147** of each major diagonal panel **145** are adjacent to, but spaced from, a respective adjacent bottom side panel **176** and **178**. Each minor diagonal wall **210** extends from front edge **188** of the respective bottom side panel **176** and **178** at an acute angle relative to the bottom side panel, and each major diagonal wall **208** extends from one of side edges **143** of front panel **142** at an obtuse angle relative to front panel **142**. A recess **226** is defined by each major diagonal wall **208**, minor diagonal wall **210**, and corner panel **138**. Further, each of bottom side panels **176** and **178** cooperates with an adjacent minor diagonal wall **210** and an adjacent major diagonal wall **208** to define a respective chamber **230** within a cavity **232** of base **202**. Each chamber **230** is separated from one of recesses **226** by a corresponding minor diagonal wall **210**.

Back tabs **184** are rotated about respective fold lines **186** toward interior surface **112** to form a portion of a back wall **236** that at least partially defines cavity **232**. It should be understood that back tabs **184** may be rotated into position before or after corner panels **138** are rotated toward interior surface **112**.

To construct lid **206** of container **200**, top side panels **162** and **164** are rotated about respective fold lines **166** and **168** toward interior surface **112**, and front tuck flap **134** is rotated about fold line **126** toward interior surface **112**, such that top side panels **162** and **164** and front tuck flap **134** are perpendicular to top panel **120**. It should be understood that lid **206** may be formed before base **202** is formed.

To close container **200**, lid **206** is rotated toward base **202** along fold lines **128** and **130**. As lid **206** is rotated toward base **202**, back panel **122** is rotated about fold line **130** to form back wall **236**. More specifically, back wall **236** is formed when back panel **122** is adjacent to back tabs **184**. Additionally, when container **200** is closed, top panel **120** forms a top wall **204** of container **200**, and front tuck flap **134** engages front panel **142** to form front wall **220** of container **200** and at least partially define the first releasably secure closure of lid **206** and base **202**. In the example embodiment, each notch **140** receives at least a portion of front tuck flap **134** to at least partially define the first releasably secure closure of lid **206** and base **202**. More specifically, each notch **140** receives one of pair of offset edges **131** of front tuck flap **134** to at least partially define the first releasably secure closure of lid **206** and base **202**. In alternative embodiment, each notch **140** receives any suitable portion of front tuck flap **134**.

In addition, when container **200** is closed, top side panel **162** cooperates with bottom side panel **176** to form first side wall **216** of container **200**, and top side panel **164** cooperates with bottom side panel **178** to form second side wall **218** of container **200**. More specifically, exterior surface **114** of each top side panel **162** and **164** contacts interior surface **112** of respective bottom side panel **176** and **178**, and front portion **171** of each top side panel **162** and **164** is at least partially disposed within one of chambers **230**. Moreover, each front edge **174** of top side panels **162** and **164** engages one of minor diagonal panels **136** to at least partially define the second releasably secure closure of container **200** in closed position **260**. For example, in the illustrated embodiment, locking tab **172** of each front edge **174** is received in a respective locking aperture **250** of minor diagonal walls **210**, at least partially defining the second releasably secure closure of lid **206** and base **202**.

Additionally, front portion **171** of top side panel **162** is received between bottom side panel **176** and side edge **147** of adjacent major diagonal panel **145**, and front portion **171** of top side panel **164** is received between bottom side panel **178** and side edge **147** of adjacent major diagonal panel **145**. In certain embodiments, each front portion **171** is so received in a friction fit, defining a third releasably secure closure of lid **206** and base **202**. In alternative embodiments, each front portion **171** is so received in a clearance fit and/or a non-contact fit.

Prior to closing container **200**, a product, such as a food product, may be placed within base **202**. As such, when lid **206** engages base **202**, the product is secured within cavity **232** by lid **206** and base **202**.

As such, the following steps are performed to form container **200** from blank **100**: (1) rotate corner panels **136** toward bottom panel **124** to form base **202**; (2) rotate back tabs **184** toward interior surface **112** to form a portion of back wall **236**; (3) rotate front tuck flap **134** and top side panels **162** and **164** toward interior surface **12** to form lid **206**; and (4) rotate lid **206** toward base **202** to form side walls **216** and **218** and front wall **220**. In an alternative embodiment, steps (1) and (2) are interchanged. In another alternative embodiment, step (3) is performed before steps (1) and (2).

FIG. **3** is a top plan view of a second example embodiment of a blank **300** of sheet material. Similar to blank **100**, blank **300** includes, from a leading edge **316** to a trailing edge **318**, a front tuck flap **334**, a top panel **320**, a back panel **322**, a bottom panel **214**, and a front panel **342**. Blank **300** also includes corner panels **338** and major diagonal panels **345**. FIG. **4** is a perspective view of a second example embodiment of a container **400** formed from blank **300** shown in FIG. **3**. Blank **300** and container **400** are substantially similar to blank **100** and container **200** shown in FIGS. **1** and **2**, except as otherwise noted. In particular, front tuck flap **334** does not include offset edges such as offset edges **131** of blank **100**, and no notches such as notches **140** of blank **100** are defined along side edges **343** of front panel **342**. Instead, the first releasably secure closure of lid **406** and base **402** is at least partially defined by a friction fit between exterior surface **314** of front tuck flap **334** and interior surface **312** of front panel **342**.

Similar to blank **100**, each of a first top side panel **362** and a second top side panel **364** of blank **300** includes a front portion **371** proximate a front edge **374**, and a locking tab **372** that extends from front edge **374**. A front edge **388** of each bottom side panel **376** and **378** includes a slot-forming tab **344** configured to form a locking aperture **450** in one of minor walls **410** of container **400** when a minor diagonal panel **336** is rotated to form container **400**. Each locking tab **372** is received in one of locking apertures **450** to at least partially define the second releasably secure closure of container **400** in closed position **460**.

FIG. **5** is a top plan view of a third example embodiment of a blank **500** of sheet material. Similar to blank **100**, blank **500** includes an interior surface **512** and an interior surface **514**, a top panel **520**, a bottom panel **524**, minor diagonal panels **536**, corner panels **538**, and major diagonal panels **545**. FIG. **6** is a perspective view of a third example embodiment of a container **600** formed from blank **500** shown in FIG. **5**. Similar to container **200**, container **600** includes side walls **616** and **618**. Blank **500** and container **600** are substantially similar to blank **100** and container **200** shown in FIGS. **1** and **2**, except as otherwise noted. In particular, similar to blank **100**, a front tuck flap **534** includes a pair of offset edges **531** disposed at opposite ends of front tuck flap **534**. More specifically, offset edges **531** are offset from a leading edge **516** of blank **500**. In alternative embodiments, front tuck flap **534** does not include offset edges **531**. Also similarly, a notch **540** is defined in a trailing edge **518** of blank **500** along each side edge **543** of a front panel **542**. Each notch **540** is configured to receive at least a portion of front tuck flap **534** to at least partially define the first releasably secure closure of container **600** in a closed position **660**. For example, in the illustrated embodiment, each notch **540** receives one of pair of offset edges **531** of front tuck flap **534** to at least partially define the first releasably secure closure of lid **606** and base **602**. In alternative embodiments, each notch **540** receives any suitable portion of front tuck flap **534**.

Each of a first top side panel **562** and a second top side panel **564** of blank **500** includes a front portion **571** proximate a front edge **574**. However, unlike blank **100**, front edge **574** does not include a locking tab such as locking tab **172** (shown in FIG. **1**), and a front edge **588** of bottom side panels **576** and **578** does not include a slot-forming tab such as slot-forming tab **144** (shown in FIG. **1**). Instead, each front edge **574** is configured to engage interior surface **512** of one of minor diagonal walls **610** in a friction fit when container **600** is in a closed position **660**, to at least partially define the second releasably secure closure of lid **606** and a base **602**.

FIG. **7** is a top plan view of a fourth example embodiment of a blank **700** of sheet material. Similar to blank **100**, blank **700** includes, from a leading edge **716** to a trailing edge **718**,

a front closure flap **734**, a bottom panel **720**, a back panel **722**, a bottom panel **724**, and a front panel **742**. Blank **700** also includes an interior surface **712** and an exterior surface **714**, as well as minor diagonal panels **736**, corner panel **738**, major diagonal panels **745**, and at least one notch **740** configured to receive at least a portion of front tuck flap **734**. FIG. **8** is a perspective view of a fourth example embodiment of a container **800** formed from blank **700** shown in FIG. **7**. Blank **700** and container **800** are substantially similar to blank **100** and container **200** shown in FIGS. **1** and **2**, except as otherwise noted. Unlike blank **100**, a front edge **788** of bottom side panels **776** and **778** does not include a slot-forming tab such as slot-forming tab **144** (shown in FIG. **1**). However, a front edge **774** of top side panels **762** and **764** includes a locking tab **772** configured to engage interior surface **712** of one of minor diagonal walls **810** in a friction fit when container **800** is in a closed position **860**, to at least partially define the second releasably secure closure of a lid **806** and a base **802**.

In addition, in the illustrated embodiment, a gap **785** is defined in blank **700** between at least one of top side panels **762** and **764** and an adjacent back tab **784**. In addition, a slot **787** is defined in a corresponding at least one of bottom side panels **776** and **778** and extends from a back edge **786** of the bottom side panel. Each gap **785** cooperates with the corresponding slot **787** to form a vent **870** in container **800**. In alternative embodiments, blank **700** and container **800** do not include gap **785**, slot **787**, and vent **870**.

Further in the illustrated embodiment, a top panel **720** includes a pair of diagonal front corner edges **773**, rather than rounded front corner edges **170** (shown in FIG. **1**). In alternative embodiments, top panel **720** includes any suitable front corner edge shape.

Also in the illustrated embodiment, top panel **720** includes extensions **791** defined by cut lines. Extensions **791** are configured to form lifting tabs **891** of lid **806** when container **800** is formed. In alternative embodiments, blank **700** and container **800** do not include extensions **791** and lifting tabs **891**.

FIG. **9** is a top plan view of a fifth example embodiment of a blank **900** of sheet material. Similar to blank **100**, blank **900** includes a leading edge **918** and a trailing edge **918**, as well as major diagonal panels **945**. Blank **900** is substantially similar to blank **100** shown in FIG. **1**, and is configured to form a container substantially similar to container **200** shown in FIG. **2**, except as otherwise noted. In particular, similar to blank **100**, a notch **940** is defined in a trailing edge **918** of blank **900** along each side edge **943** of a front panel **942**. However, a front tuck flap **934** does not include offset edges such as offset edges **131** of blank **100**. Instead, front tuck flap **934** has a substantially constant depth D_1 along substantially an entire length of front tuck flap **934** that is sized to be received within notches **940**. More specifically, each notch **940** has a depth D_2 that is substantially equal to or greater than depth D_1, such that each notch **940** is configured to receive at least a portion of front tuck flap **934** to at least partially define the first releasably secure closure of the container in a closed position.

FIG. **10** is a top plan view of a sixth example embodiment of a blank **1000** of sheet material. Blank **1000** is substantially similar to blank **100** shown in FIG. **1**, and is configured to form a container substantially similar to container **200** shown in FIG. **2**, except as otherwise noted. In particular, blank **1000** includes a pair of front corner edge projections **1070** that are configured to form lifting tabs for a lid of the container. In the illustrated embodiment, each projection **1070** is generally rectangular-shaped. In an alternative embodiment, each projection **1070** is generally semi-circular-shaped. In other alternative embodiments, each projection **1070** has any suitable shape that facilitates lifting the lid of the container formed from blank **1000**.

Embodiments of the above-described container are easily constructed from a flexible unitary blank of paperboard. Further, embodiments of the above-described container include an easily formed first releasably secure closure of a lid and a base, at least partially defined by engagement of a front tuck flap on the lid and a front panel of the base, and an easily formed second releasably secure closure of the lid and the base, at least partially defined by engagement of front edges of the side panels of the lid and minor diagonal panels of the base.

Exemplary embodiments of a container have been described above in detail. The container is not limited to the specific embodiments described herein, but rather, components of the container and/or steps of the method may be utilized independently and separately from other components and/or steps described herein. Further, the described components and/or method steps can also be defined in, or used in combination with, other apparatus and/or methods, and are not limited to practice with only the apparatus and method as described herein.

While the invention has been described in terms of various specific embodiments, those skilled in the art will recognize that the invention can be practiced with modification within the spirit and scope of the claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A blank of foldable sheet material for forming a container, said blank comprising:

a top portion comprising a top panel, a front tuck flap extending from a front edge of said top panel, and a first top side panel extending from a first side edge of said top panel; and

a bottom portion comprising a bottom panel, a first bottom side panel extending from a first side edge of said bottom panel, a front panel extending from a front edge of said bottom panel, and

a corner portion comprising:

a first minor diagonal panel extending from a front edge of said first bottom side panel;

a first major diagonal panel extending from a first side edge of said front panel, said first major diagonal panel having a length greater than a length of said first minor diagonal panel; and

a first corner panel hingedly connected to said first minor and major diagonal panels, wherein said front panel is configured to engage said front tuck flap to at least partially define a first releasably secure closure of the container in a closed position, and said first top side panel includes a front edge including a locking tab configured to engage said first minor diagonal panel to at least partially define a second releasably secure closure of the container in the closed position.

2. A blank in accordance with claim **1** wherein said front tuck flap further comprises an offset edge, at least one of said front panel and said first major diagonal panel further comprises a notch, and said notch being configured to receive said offset edge when the container is formed to at least partially define the first releasably secure closure of the container in the closed position.

3. A blank in accordance with claim **1** wherein said first bottom side panel further comprises a slot-forming tab extending from said front edge of said first bottom side panel, wherein said slot-forming tab is configured to form a locking aperture defined between said first bottom side panel and said first minor diagonal panel when the container is formed, and

said locking aperture is configured to receive said locking tab when the container is formed to at least partially define the second releasably secure closure of the container in the closed position.

4. A blank in accordance with claim **1** wherein said first bottom side panel and a side edge of said first major diagonal panel are configured to engage said front portion of said first top side panel in a friction fit when the container is formed to define a third releasably secure closure of the container in the closed position.

5. A blank in accordance with claim **1** wherein an exterior surface of said front tuck flap is configured to engage in a friction fit with an interior surface of said front panel when the container is formed to at least partially define the first releasably secure closure of the container in the closed position.

6. A blank in accordance with claim **1** wherein said locking tab is configured to engage in a friction fit with an interior surface of said first minor diagonal panel when the container is formed to at least partially define the second releasably secure closure of the container in the closed position.

7. A blank in accordance with claim **1** wherein said front tuck flap has a substantially constant first depth, at least one of said front panel and said first major diagonal panel further comprises a notch, wherein said notch has a second depth greater than or equal to the first depth, and said notch is configured to receive a portion of said front tuck flap when the container is formed to at least partially define the first releasably secure closure of the container in the closed position.

8. A blank in accordance with claim **1** wherein at least one of said front panel and said first major diagonal panel further comprises a notch, and said notch is configured to receive said front tuck panel when the container is formed to at least partially define the first releasably secure closure of the container in the closed position.

9. A container formed from a blank of foldable sheet material, said container comprising:

a top portion comprising a top panel hingedly connected to a front tuck flap along a front edge of said top panel and to a first top side panel along a first side edge of said top panel; and

a bottom portion comprising a bottom panel, a first bottom side panel hingedly connected to a first side edge of said bottom panel, a front panel hingedly connected to a front edge of said bottom panel, and

a corner portion comprising:

a first minor diagonal panel extending from a front edge of said first bottom side panel;

a first major diagonal panel extending from a first side edge of said front panel, said first major diagonal panel having a length greater than a length of said first minor diagonal panel; and

a first corner panel hingedly connected to said first minor and major diagonal panels, said first corner panel overlapping and substantially parallel to said bottom panel, wherein said front panel is engaged by said front tuck flap to at least partially define a first releasably secure closure of the container, and a front edge of said first top side panel includes a locking tab which is engaged by said first minor diagonal panel to at least partially define a second releasably secure closure of the container.

10. A container in accordance with claim **9** wherein said front tuck flap further comprises an offset edge, at least one of said front panel and said first major diagonal panel further comprises a notch, and said offset edge being received by said notch to at least partially define the first releasably secure closure of the container.

11. A container in accordance with claim **9** wherein said first bottom side panel and said first minor panel define a locking aperture therebetween, and said locking tab is received by said locking aperture to at least partially define the second releasably secure closure of the container.

12. A container in accordance with claim **9** wherein said front portion of said first top side panel is received between said first bottom side panel and a side edge of said first major diagonal panel in a friction fit to define a third releasably secure closure of the container.

13. A container in accordance with claim **9** wherein an exterior surface of said front tuck flap is engaged in a friction fit with an interior surface of said front panel to at least partially define the first releasably secure closure of the container in the closed position.

14. A container in accordance with claim **9** wherein said locking tab is engaged in a friction fit with an interior surface of said first minor diagonal panel to at least partially define the second releasably secure closure of the container.

15. A container in accordance with claim **9** wherein said front tuck flap has a substantially constant first depth, at least one of said front panel and said first major diagonal panel further comprises a notch, wherein said notch has a second depth greater than or equal to the first depth, and a portion of said front tuck flap is received by said notch to at least partially define the first releasably secure closure of the container.

16. A container in accordance with claim **9** wherein at least one of said front panel and said first major diagonal panel further comprises a notch, and said front tuck panel is received by said notch to at least partially define the first releasably secure closure of the container.

17. A method of constructing a container from a blank of sheet material, the method comprising:

rotating a first corner panel of the blank about a respective fold line toward an interior surface of the first blank to form a base, wherein the blank includes a bottom panel, a first bottom side panel hingedly connected to a first side edge of the bottom panel, a front panel hingedly connected to a front edge of the bottom panel, and a corner portion including a first minor diagonal panel extending from a front edge of the first bottom side panel, a first major diagonal panel extending from a first side edge of the front panel, the first major diagonal panel having a length greater than a length of said first minor diagonal panel, and a first corner panel hingedly connected to the first minor and major diagonal panels, wherein said rotating causes further rotation of the first major diagonal panel, the first minor diagonal panel, the front panel, and the first bottom side panel about respective fold lines toward the interior of the blank, such that, after said rotating, the corner panel is overlapping and substantially parallel to the bottom panel of the blank, and the first major diagonal panel, the first minor diagonal panel, the front panel, and the first bottom side panel are substantially perpendicular to the bottom panel;

rotating a first top side panel of the blank about a respective fold line toward the interior surface of the blank to form a lid, wherein the blank further includes a top panel hingedly connected to a front tuck flap along a front edge of the top panel and to the first top side panel along a first side edge of the top panel; and

rotating the lid toward the base such that the front panel is engaged by the front tuck flap to at least partially define a first releasably secure closure of the container, and such that a locking tab on a front edge of the first top side

panel is engaged by the first minor diagonal panel to at least partially define a second releasably secure closure of the container.

18. A method in accordance with claim **17** wherein at least one of the front panel and the first major diagonal panel further includes a notch and the front tuck panel further includes an offset edge, the method further comprising inserting the offset edge into the notch to at least partially define the first releasably secure closure of the container.

19. A method in accordance with claim **17** wherein the first bottom side panel and the first minor panel define a locking aperture therebetween, the method further comprising inserting the locking tab into the locking aperture to at least partially define the second releasably secure closure of the container.

20. A method in accordance with claim **17**, further comprising inserting the front portion of the first top side panel between the first bottom side panel and a side edge of the first major diagonal panel, such that the front portion of the first top side panel is engaged in a friction fit with at least one of the first bottom side panel and the first major diagonal panel, to at least partially define a third releasably secure closure of the container.

21. A method in accordance with claim **17**, further comprising coupling the locking tab against an interior surface of the first minor diagonal panel, such that the locking tab is engaged in a friction fit with the first minor diagonal panel, to at least partially define the second releasably secure closure of the container.

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